(b) whether Indian industries affected by such dumping have to fill in and file an application before the competent authority which is cumbersome procedure; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the onus of proof of dumping lies on the adversely affected Indian industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Designated Authority for Anti-Dumping in the Ministry of Commerce receives petitions from the domestic industry alleging dumping of certain products by foreign companies. Wherever such petitions contain prima-facie evidence of dumping and material injury to domestic industry from such dumping, investigation is undertaken. No petitions are pending on dumping of Steel and films.

(b) It is true that an Indian industry which is affected has to fill in the details as per a format prescribed by the competent authority. The format has been prescribed to obtain all nesesary detailis for the Designated Authority to investigate as per requirements of law. The procedure thereafter is to issue a Public Notice of initiaion of investigation, followed by a Public Hearing and issue of Provisional and Final findings.

(c) The onus of providing prima-facie evidence of dumping lies with the domestic industry. One this evidence is provided and the investigation is initiated, the onus is on the foreign companies to prove that they had not indulged in dumping.

Financial irregularities by Dubai Office of STC

3114.2 SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been misappropriation of Government funds and financial irrgularities in the Dubai office of STC;

(b) whether both the CBI and Government audit party have given adverse remarks in this matter;

(c) if so, whether an official posted at Dubai was abruptly transferred back to India; and

(d) whether Government have held further inquiry into these matters and if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Based on references received from the Central Vigilance Commission, CBI and Government Audit Party, alleging improper financial claims by Branch Manager, STC's Office at Dubai, the matter is presently under inquiry in the Corporation. Further action in the matter would be taken depending on the outcome of the inquiry. The official has since been transferred to India on completion of his tenure.

Foreign Exchange spent on imports

3115. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total foreign exchange spent for import of goods during the year 1993-94;

(b) what are the products imported;

(c) what is the total foreign exchange earned by export of goods during the year 1993-94; and

(d) what are the products exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) As per estimates of DGCI&S, Calcutta, the total amount of foreign exchange utilised in imports was US $ 23,306 million (Rs. 73,101 crores) during 1993-94, and amount of foreign ex-

change earned from exports during the same year was US $ 22 238 million (Rs. 69,751 crores). Principal commodities imported comprised items such as fertilisers, pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, machinery, coal, coke and briquettes, organic and inorganic chemicals professional instruments and medicine and pharmaceutical products. The principal commodities exported during 1993-94 were plantation crops such as tea & coffee; agriculture & allied products comprising cereals, tobacco, spices, nuts and seeds, oil meals, processed foods, meat & meat preparations, marine products; ores & minerals, leather & manufactures; Gems & jewellery; sports goods; chemicals & related products; engineering goods; project goods; textiles; handicrafts; carpets; cotton raw including waste; and petroleum products.

Visit of Canadian Secretary of State

3116. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canadian Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific has visited India in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof with purpose;

(c) whether he stressed the need for Indo-Canadian Cooperation in trade and business especially in power generation, telecommunications and environmental technology etc;

(d) whether he also indicated that Canada could provide world class technology to India and also invited the Indian industry to invest in Canada to take advantage of the North Ameria Free Trade Agreement to enter the markets of the United States, Mexico and Chils,

(e) whether Government propose to take some initiatives with regard to (c) and (d) to boost exports to new horizons o the world; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mr. Raymand Chan, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada visited India from 11th to 16th March 1995 accompanied by a large delegation including 34 representatives of Canadian business houses. Apart from calling on different Ministers in the Govt. of India and holding delegation level discussions with the Indian delegation, Mr. Chan also addressed various Industry Association.

(c) Yes. Sir.

(d) Mr. Chan invited Indian companies to take advantage of increased openings for joint ventures, technology partnerships and direct investments so that Canadian and Indian businesses can successfully penetrate each other's markets and also exploit opportunities in third markets.

(e) and (f) Intensification of private sector business interaction is likely to lead to further expansion of bilateral trade.

Cheaper trade routes to Central Asian Republics

3117. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to finalise arrangements for opening a cheaper trade route to Central Asian Republics through Bandar Abbas, a sea port in Iran;

(b) if so, the details thereof with objectives;

(c) whether Government also propose to develop an alternative airport for transportation of Indian goods in Central Asian Republics;